IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA **SOUTHERN DIVISION**

RUBY STREETER,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
V.) Civil Action No. 1:07cv97-WKW
)
OFFICE OF DOUGLAS R. BURGESS, LLC,)
and DOUGLAS R. BURGESS,)
)
Defendants.	

Defendants Office of Douglas R. Burgess, LLC and Douglas R. Burgess's Response to Plaintiff's Motion Plaintiff's Motion to **Deem Requests for Admission Admitted**

COMES NOW, Defendants Office of Douglas R. Burgess, LLC and Douglas R. Burgess and responds to Plaintiff's Motion to Deem Requests for Admission Admitted as follows:

- 1. Defendants previously provided responses to the Plaintiffs Discovery Requests to the counsel for the Plaintiff on June 26, 2007.
- 2. Defendants informed the Plaintiff that they were not represented by counsel and that the discovery responses had not been reviewed by any previous or new counsel.
- 3. Defendant, Douglas R. Burgess informed the Plaintiff that he was in the process of trying to retain local counsel and that he would supplement the discovery responses as soon as possible.
- Defendants have obtained new local counsel as of July 11, 2007 and have sent the 4. new, completed responses to counsel for Plaintiff as of July 25th, 2007.
 - 5. The Plaintiff has not been prejudiced by any delay in receiving responses.

6. Having to prepare for a trial on the merits is not the type of prejudice which the plaintiff can raise to combat the defendant's motion for leave to file late answers because preparing for a trial on the merits was plaintiff's burden from the beginning.

WHEREFORE, Defendants respectfully request that this Court deny the Plaintiff's Motion to Deem Facts Admitted and allow the case to be determined on the merits.

Respectfully submitted this the 27th day of July, 2007.

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Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that I have served the Notice of Appearance upon counsels for the Plaintiff, via US Mail, postage prepaid, this the 25th day of July 2007, to the following address: David G. Poston Walter A. Blakeney

Michael D. Brock Gary W. Stout **BROCK & STOUT** Post Office Drawer 311167

Enterprise, AL 36330

/s/ W. McCollum Halcomb W. McCollum Halcomb